

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for managing network resources comprising:

a network management server configured to execute a network management application which causes the network management server to perform network management instructions including,

sending one or more network commands to one or more network devices connected to a network causing reconfiguration of how the one or more network devices process network traffic,

receiving one or more status packets from the one or more network devices in response to the one or more network commands, and

performing an analysis of use of network resources on the one or more network devices connected to a network using the one or more status packets, the network management server further configured to request that a network device load the network management application from another device, the network device being among the one or more network devices; and

a network device configured to download the network management application and execute the network management application which causes the network device to perform the network management instructions including,

reconfiguring how network traffic is processed,

sending one or more second network commands to one of the one or more network devices,

receiving one or more second status packets from one of the one or more network devices in response to the one or more second network commands,

performing an analysis of use of network resources on the one or more network devices connected to a network using the one or more second status packets, and

sending results of the analysis to the network management server for use in management of the network;

~~the network device having a loop back address via which the downloaded network management application accesses local storage and resources using a local network protocol stack and local network protocol parameters.~~

2. (previously presented) The system in claim 1, wherein the task network management application includes network management instructions compatible with a network management protocol.
3. (original) The system in claim 2, wherein the network management protocol includes the simple network management protocol (SNMP).
4. (previously presented) The system in claim 1, wherein the task network management application includes network management instructions compatible with an object-oriented programming language.
5. (previously presented) The system in claim 1, wherein the task network management application includes network management instructions compatible with byte-codes executable on a virtual machine.
6. (original) The system in claim 5, wherein the virtual machine is compatible with the Java Virtual Machine.
7. (previously presented) The system in claim 1, wherein the task network management application includes network management instructions compatible with the Java object-oriented programming language.
8. (cancelled)
9. (previously presented) The system in claim 1, further comprising an application server device connected to the network and used to store one or more network management applications downloadable onto the network device.

10. (previously presented) The system in claim 1, wherein the task network monitors a network parameter associated with the network and notifies the network management server when the network parameter reaches a threshold level.

11. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method of distributing management of network resources on a network to network devices exchanging information over the network, comprising:

executing a network management application through a network management server to perform network management instructions including an analysis of use of network resources on one or more network devices connected to a network;

receiving a request on a network device among the one or more network devices to execute the network management application including reconfiguring how one or more of the network devices processes network traffic and performing an analysis of use of network resources on one or more other network devices connected to the network;

receiving the network management application at the network device from another network device over the network wherein the network management application includes the network management instructions for reconfiguring the network device and performing the analysis task;

reconfiguring the network device;

processing the network management instructions on the network device that requests a network parameter from a remote network device, the remote network device being among the one or more other network devices, the network management instructions including;

transmitting the request for the network parameter over the network to the remote network; and

receiving the requested network parameter over the network from the remote network device,

processing the network management instructions including performing the analysis on the network device using the network parameter; and

providing results of the analysis to the network management server in response to the request to execute the task;

— the network device having a loop back address, and the received network management application performing the step of accessing local storage and resources using a local network protocol stack and local network protocol parameters via the loop back address.

12. (cancelled)
13. (previously presented) The method in claim 11, wherein providing results further comprises:
notifying a the network management server when the network parameter reaches a threshold level.
14. (previously presented) The method in claim 11 wherein the task network management application includes network management instructions compatible with a network management protocol.
15. (original) The method in claim 14 wherein the network management protocol includes the simple network management protocol (SNMP).
16. (previously presented) The method in claim 11, wherein the task network management application includes network management instructions compatible with an object-oriented programming language.
17. (previously presented) The method in claim 11, wherein the task network management application includes network management instructions compatible with byte-codes executable on a virtual machine.
18. (original) The method in claim 16, wherein the virtual machine is compatible with the Java Virtual Machine.

19. (previously presented) The method in claim 11, wherein the task network management application includes network management instructions compatible with the Java object-oriented programming language.
20. (previously presented) The method in claim 11, wherein the a processor on the network device executes a network management instruction that analyzes the utilization of network resources on one or more network devices connected to the network.
21. (previously presented) The method in claim 11, further comprising an application server device connected to the network, the application server device being used to store one or more network management applications that are downloadable onto the network device.
22. (currently amended) An apparatus for distributing network management of a network to network devices, comprising:
 - a network management server configured to execute a network management application which causes the network management server to perform network management instructions including,
 - sending one or more network commands to one or more network devices connected to a network,
 - receiving one or more status packets from the one more network devices in response to the one or more network commands, and
 - performing an analysis of use of network resources on the one or more network devices connected to a network using the one or more status packets, the network management server further configured to request that a network device load the network management application from another device, the network device being among the one or more network devices; and
 - a processor; and
 - a memory containing instructions when executed cause the processor to,
 - receive the request on the network device to execute the network management application that performs the network management instructions

receive the network management application over the network on the network device wherein the network management application has the instructions for performing the network management instructions including,

reconfiguring how the network devices processes network traffic,

requesting network parameters from a remote network device, the remote network device being among the one or more network devices,

transmitting the request for the network parameter over the network to the remote network,

receiving the requested network parameter over the network from the remote network device,

processing the instruction for performing the analysis on the remote network device using the network parameter; and

providing results of the analysis to the network management server in response to the request to execute the network management instructions;

~~the network device having a loop back address, and the received network management application having instructions for accessing local storage and resources using a local network protocol stack and local network protocol parameters via the loop back address.~~

23. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the memory contains additional instructions for execution on the processor that continue processing network management instructions on the network device using the network parameter, and providing and provide results of the analysis in response to the request to execute the task.

24. (original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the memory contains additional instructions for execution on the processor and providing results of the analysis that further notify the network management server when the network parameter reaches a threshold level.

25. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the processor executes network management instructions compatible with a network management protocol.

26. (original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the network management protocol includes the simple network management protocol (SNMP).
27. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the processor executes network management instructions compatible with an object-oriented programming language.
28. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the processor executes network management instructions compatible with byte-codes executable on a virtual machine.
29. (original) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the virtual machine is compatible with the Java Virtual Machine.
30. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the processor executes network management instructions compatible with the Java object-oriented programming language.
31. (currently amended) An apparatus for distributing network management of a network to network devices exchanging information over the network comprising:
 - means for executing a network management application through a network management server to perform network management instructions including an analysis of use of network resources on one or more network devices connected to a network;
 - means for receiving a request on a network device among the one or more other network devices to execute the network management application including reconfiguring how the network devices processes network traffic and performing an analysis of use of network resources on one or more other network devices connected to the network;
 - means for receiving, from another network device, the network management application at the network device over the network wherein the network management application includes the network management instructions for performing the analysis task;
 - means for processing the network management instructions on the network device that requests network parameters from a remote network device, the remote network device being among the one or more other network devices, the network management instructions including,

means for transmitting the request for the network parameter over the network to the remote network; and

means for receiving the requested network parameter from the remote network device over the network,

means for processing the network management instructions including reconfiguring how the network devices processes network traffic and performing the analysis on the network device using the network parameter; and

means for providing results of the analysis to the network management server in response to the request to execute the task;

~~the network device having a loop back address, and the received network management instructions including means for accessing local storage and resources using a local network protocol stack and local network protocol parameters via the loop back address.~~

32. (currently amended) A computer program product, for distributing network management of a network to network devices exchanging information over the network, the product comprising program code instructions to cause a processor to:

execute a network management application through a network management server to perform network management instructions including an analysis of use of network resources on one or more network devices connected to a network,

receive a request on a network device among the one or more network devices to execute the network management application including reconfiguring how the network devices processes network traffic and performing an analysis of use of network resources on one or more other network devices connected to the network;

receive, from another network device, a network management application at the network device over the network wherein the network management application includes the network management instructions for performing the analysis task;

process the network management instructions on the network device that requests network parameters from a remote network device, the remote network device being among the one or more other network devices, the network management instructions including instructions to cause the processor to.

transmit the request for the network parameter over the network to the remote network; and

receive from the remote network device the requested network parameter over the network

process the network management instructions including reconfiguring how the network devices processes network traffic and performing the analysis on the network device using the network parameter; and

provide results of the analysis to the network management server in response to the request to execute the task;

~~the network device having a loop back address, and the network management instructions causing the processor to access local storage and resources using a local network protocol stack and local network protocol parameters via the loop back address.~~

33. (previously presented) The system in claim 1, wherein the network device performing an analysis of use of network resources on the one or more network devices connected to a network reduces processing load on the network management server and frees up the network management server to perform tasks other than performing an analysis of use of network resources.

34. (previously presented) The method in claim 11, wherein processing the network management instructions on the network device reduces processing load on the network management server and frees up the network management server to perform tasks other than performing an analysis of use of network resources.